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## **Obama Administration Announces Additional \$24,624,200 for Local Energy Efficiency Improvements in Louisiana**

*Block Grants to Support Jobs, Cut Energy Bills, and Increase Energy Independence*

**WASHINGTON** – Vice President Joe Biden and Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced plans to invest \$3.2 billion in energy efficiency and conservation projects in U.S. cities, counties, states, territories, and Native American tribes. This includes \$24,624,200 for state, county and city efforts in Louisiana. A detailed breakdown is below.

Today's announcement builds on an investment of \$122,351,478 in Louisiana weatherization and energy funding announced by the Administration on March 12<sup>th</sup> and detailed at [energy.gov/recovery](http://energy.gov/recovery).

"These investments will save taxpayer dollars and create jobs in communities around the country," said Vice President Biden. "Local leaders will have the flexibility in how they put these resources to work – but we will hold them accountable for making the investments quickly and wisely to spur the local economy and cut energy use."

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program, funded by President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will provide formula grants for projects that reduce total energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency.

The funding will support energy audits and energy efficiency retrofits in residential and commercial buildings, the development and implementation of advanced building codes and inspections, and the creation of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements. Other activities eligible for use of grant funds include transportation programs that conserve energy, projects to reduce and capture methane and other greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, renewable energy installations on government buildings, energy efficient traffic signals and street lights, deployment of Combined Heat and Power and district heating and cooling systems, and others.

To ensure accountability, the Department of Energy will provide guidance to and require grant recipients to report on the number of jobs created or retained, energy saved, renewable energy capacity installed, greenhouse gas emissions reduced, and funds leveraged. Funding is based on a formula that accounts for population and energy use.

“The Block Grants are a major investment in energy solutions that will strengthen America’s economy and create jobs at the local level,” said Secretary Chu. “The funding will be used for the cheapest, cleanest and most reliable energy technologies we have – energy efficiency and conservation – which can be deployed immediately. The grants also empower local communities to make strategic investments to meet the nation’s long term clean energy and climate goals.”

Funding for state, city, and county governments in the state includes:

<b>LA</b>	<b>Louisiana Total Sum City, County, and SEO Allocations</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>\$ 24,624,200</b>
LA	Louisiana	State Energy Office	\$ 13,805,700
LA	Alexandria	City	\$ 226,700
LA	Baton Rouge	City	\$ 2,354,700
LA	Bossier City	City	\$ 608,600
LA	Kenner	City	\$ 601,100
LA	Lafayette	City	\$ 1,193,300
LA	Lake Charles	City	\$ 715,000
LA	Monroe	City	\$ 555,600
LA	New Iberia	City	\$ 145,500
LA	New Orleans	City	\$ 2,440,100
LA	Shreveport	City	\$ 1,977,900

In addition, today’s announcement includes funding for the following Tribal governments in the state:

LA	Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana	\$ 25,000
LA	Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana	\$ 25,000
LA	Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, Louisiana	\$ 25,000
LA	Tunica-Biloxi Indian Tribe of Louisiana	\$ 52,700

(NOTE: If a Tribal government spans more than one state, the number above reflects the allocation for the Tribal government as a whole.)

More information on the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program is available on [http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/wip/block\\_grants.cfm](http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/wip/block_grants.cfm).

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